July 22, 2020

Ald. Milele A. Coggs (414) 286-2994

Finance and Personnel Committee to discuss broadband access throughout Milwaukee

During today's meeting of the Finance and Personnel Committee, the committee will hear file # 200275 - Communication from the Department of Administration - Information Technology Management Division relating to broadband access in the City of Milwaukee. The file is sponsored by **Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs**.

"As our community and communities across the globe continue to struggle with COVID-19, we are adjusting to lifestyle changes most of us could never have imagined (wearing masks, social distancing, home schooling, etc...). Many of us have had to work from home over the last several months and now given the recent choice of Milwaukee Public Schools officials to begin the school year with virtual learning, access to technology and broadband once thought of as an amenity has now become a utility," said Alderwoman Coggs. "The last several months have also shed a light on the fact that everyone may not have access to broadband. Given how essential to our lives broadband access is now becoming I thought it was important to begin to explore and be informed about where the need is for greater access so that we can build solutions to help residents deal with our ever changing reality."

Currently, several areas within Milwaukee are under served in terms of broadband and internet access. Residential broadband access is available from Spectrum and AT&T, and both companies along with PCs for People offer discounted internet rates for households facing economic difficulties.